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**Director of
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***Monday
3 August 1981***

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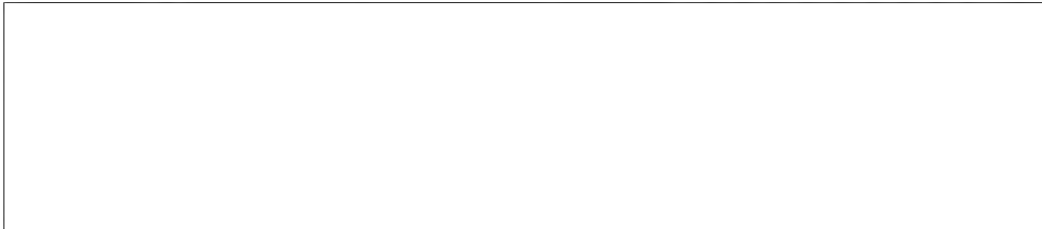
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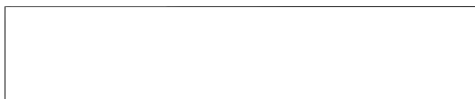
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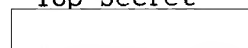


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POLAND: Regime Threats

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The Polish regime has again implicitly threatened to declare a state of emergency, and talks today between Solidarity and the government may not immediately lessen tension. [redacted]

On Saturday, the government once again warned that it would take every action to stop "chaos and anarchy." It strengthened this implicit threat by announcing that the military would aid the regular police in cracking down on people selling food at speculative prices. [redacted]

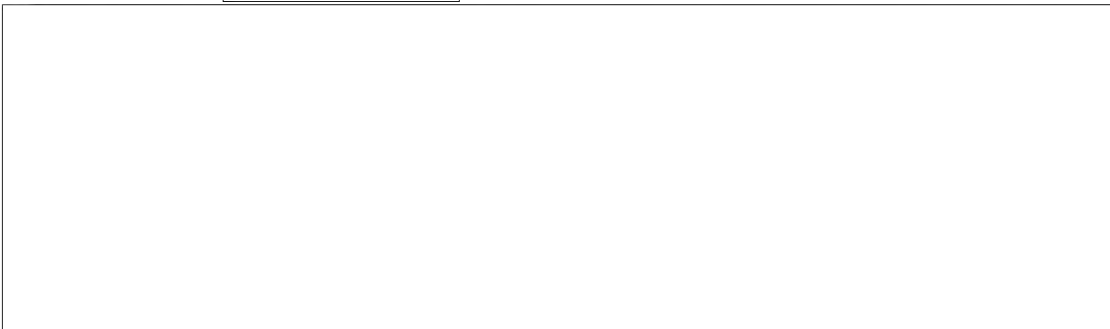
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Yesterday Premier Jaruzelski underscored the threat. He chaired a meeting of the Military Council of the Ministry of Defense to discuss the worsening internal political situation and to lay out tasks for the armed forces in combating speculation and other "destructive social phenomena." Meetings of the Military Council are rarely announced, and details concerning the Council's deliberations are seldom publicized. [redacted]

The party Politburo also met on Saturday to approve the government's statement and plans. It issued its own warning to some branches of Solidarity to desist from their plans for street demonstrations and strikes. The party leaders, while acknowledging that public discussions of price increases have led to increased tension and "misunderstandings," insisted that the price increases are indispensable and suggested they cannot be postponed too long. [redacted]

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Solidarity's Response

Solidarity leader Walesa and other national leaders of the union met late last night and agreed to meet with government officials today. The union presumably hopes that this meeting--and the session of the newly elected Central Committee that will take place soon--will help dissipate tension. It is unclear, however, whether the national leaders of Solidarity will--or can--prevail upon the union's local chapters to call off threatened strikes and other demonstrations. "Hunger" marches are scheduled today in Warsaw and later this week in several other major cities.

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PANAMA: Aftermath of Torrijos's Death

The domestic political situation following the death of General Omar Torrijos is likely to be in a state of flux in the coming months and will depend substantially on the intention of the military high command.

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The allegiance of the military to Torrijos was based largely on the benefits it received for supporting the coup in 1968, and the power vacuum that now exists is unlikely to be filled soon. Torrijos kept his subordinates politically isolated and often fueled their mutual antagonism to enhance his own control.

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The officer corps is not likely to work well with President Royo, a figurehead retained by the military because of Torrijos's desire to maintain the integrity of the presidency. Royo will be concerned with the possibility of a coup before his term ends in 1984, and he could choose to hold presidential elections sooner.

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Whether or not the elections are moved up, parties and groups on both ends of the political spectrum probably will be more active in pursuing policies affecting their interests. If the potential for street violence or strikes were to grow, the Royo government could feel compelled to divert domestic attention to external issues such as US regional policy or Canal treaty matters.

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Royo occasionally has demonstrated a certain recklessness and naivete in foreign policy, and without Torrijos to keep him in line, he may try to assert himself in foreign affairs, particularly in Central America.

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SENEGAL - THE GAMBIA: Rebellion Weakens

Although Senegalese forces now control key areas of Banjul and President Jawara has returned to Gambian territory, rebel leader Sanyang is still threatening to kill the hostages in a desperate bid to stave off defeat. [REDACTED]

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Senegal sent armored units into the capital early yesterday after commandos secured the area around the US Embassy and linked up with Gambian loyalists. Rebels in the city evidently offered little resistance. The last major pocket of armed opposition appears to be a suburb where Sanyang is holding the hostages. [REDACTED]

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Jawara left Dakar yesterday and is waiting in safety a short distance from Banjul, planning to enter the capital as soon as possible to demonstrate that he continues to control the government. He has offered clemency to rebels who lay down their arms, but he is likely to deal harshly with the coup leaders. [REDACTED]

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Civil disorder almost certainly will remain a problem for Jawara after the organized rebellion is quelled. The rebels have distributed large quantities of Soviet-manufactured small arms from the police armory to disgruntled youths and other civilians. [REDACTED]

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